

SFUSD
MATHEMATICS

Second Grade Family Letter

Unit 4: Measuring Time

In this unit, students will work with telling time to the nearest five minutes. Counting by fives is a part of this routine. They will also work on distinguishing notations for morning and afternoon (a.m. and p.m.), as well as other conventions for reading and describing time. There are many real-world connections in this unit. The class will practice telling time using their own school schedule.

Analog and Digital Clocks

Many of us appreciate how easy it is to read digital clocks in our fast-paced world. An analog clock, or a clock with faces and hands, helps students count by fives. It also helps students think in units different than the 10s and 100s of the base-10 system.

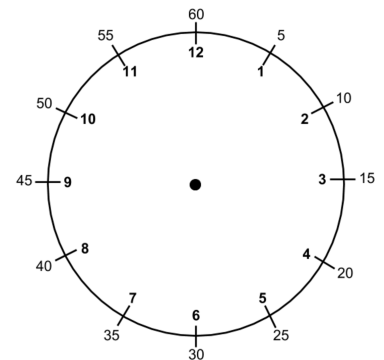


Students will tell time by accurately reading the hands on an analog clock. In Grade 2, they move from telling and showing time in half hour increments to telling and showing time in five minute increments. They will have homework that shows clocks such as this one, and be asked to write the time. A great support is to notice clocks around you and tell time aloud.



Skip Counting: 5, 10, 15, 20...

This unit is a good chance for students to build their fluency with skip counting by fives, which is important for a lot of upcoming math. Skip counting helps with addition and subtraction, as well as the multiplication and division of later years. It is also used a lot for counting things—many things come in pairs (such as socks) or in groups of 5 or 10 (such as money). Five will be especially important as students learn to round and estimate.



To skip count by fives on a clock, students can practice by showing where on the face of a clock each new number lands.

How Long Is A Minute?

Students will have real-world experiences of units of time, including seconds and minutes. While students need to read and write time, they also need to experience it. For example, students will do activities like running in place for a full minute. These are great kinds of activities to do at home and can also provide opportunities to talk about health and fitness.

Schedules, a.m., and p.m.



During this unit, students will pay attention to class schedules and home activities. Students will notice start times and end times for a range of activities.

Students will also be making sense of a 24-hour day cut into two halves, named a.m. and p.m. While many of us say things like, “7 in the morning” or “4:30 in the afternoon,” second graders will be working to use the more precise terms a.m. and p.m.

Activities You Can Do to Support Math at Home

Noticing Schedules In Everyday Life

Our busy lives are full of real-world opportunities to think about and notice time. Students in this unit will pay attention to schedules as part of their homework.

- If you have a regular dinner time or bedtime in your family, reinforce that by reading a clock in five minute increments leading up to that time. As you do an activity with your child, point out what time it is.
- If you have any special routines such as reading at night, notice the start time and end time.
- Notice the time needed for morning routines (breakfast, traveling to school). This will help students assume a sense of their own responsibility and time management.

This is a great time to reinforce whatever time-based habits you want to build as a family.

Math Notebooks

Writing and drawing in math are great habits from the classroom that you can reinforce at home by having a special place for your child to record their ideas and observations. In the classroom, students use their math notebooks regularly to develop their understanding of concepts and extend that understanding with multiple representations and precise mathematical vocabulary.



You can extend any math activity with writing. Students should look for more than one way to show their ideas, choosing from numbers and equations, words, drawing, and graphs or charts.

For drawing clocks, students can trace any circular object such as a can. They can use a ruler or other straightedge to draw in the hands. One thing that will get better with practice is the length of the hands, with the minute hand being longer.